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collectione Camphoræ non nisi ex auditu commemorari, & viros cæteroquin eruditos *Ten Rheine*, *Breyonium*, *Hermannum* cæterosque, alium ex alio transcripsisse, nullum vero, quantum credere par est, rem oculis in arbore ipsa conspexisse, quæ quidem fallacia in Historia naturali prima non foret. Hinc denique concludo, esse omnino hanc speciem Camphoræ tam raram, ut eam oculis cernere nemini liceat, nec forsan unquam contingere queat.

C. NEUMAN.

III. *Observations of the Dipping Needle, made at London, in the Beginning of the Year 1723. By Mr. George Graham, Watchmaker, F. R. S.*

ABOUT the Time I was observing the Variation of the Horizontal Needle, I made likewise some Experiments with the Dipping Needle, to try, if the Dip and Vibrations were constant and regular. The Needle I made for this Purpose was 12 Inches and one Tenth long, half an Inch broad in the Middle, but not above one Tenth near the Ends; the Ends themselves being filed to fine Edges; and in Thickness it was about one Third of a Tenth. The Ends of the Axis, upon which the Needle turn'd, were very smooth, and not bigger than was necessary for the Support of the Needle, which weighed nine Pennyweights twenty one Grains, or about half an Ounce *Troy*. The Ends of the Axis were placed upon the Edges of two thin Plates of Steel, that were hard and well polish'd, and parallel to the Horizon, that the Needle, when vibrating, might roll, and not slide upon the Edges of the Plates, to avoid the Friction

Friction they would have been subject to, by moving in Holes. A Brass Semicircle was provided, and from the lowest Point graduated each Way, and a few of the Degrees, about that Part of it which answer'd to the Dip, were divided into six equal Parts. By the Help of Screws, the Semicircle could be brought to a due Situation; and by two spirit Levels, placed at right Angles to each other, any Change of Situation was easily perceiv'd, and by the Screws it could be readily restor'd to its former Position; all was inclos'd with Gläfs to secure the Needle from being disturb'd by the Motion of the Air. I must here take Notice of the great Difficulty there is of peising the Needle so exactly, before it is touch'd with the Loadstone, as to take any Position indifferently: for, when it is pretty near the Truth, it is *extremely* troublesome to place it at rest in the Position desir'd, in order to try which Way it is inclin'd to move. It cannot be done in the open Air; for the least Motion of it will disturb the Needle, and when it is shut up, it is no easy Matter to settle it in the Place intended. And that there will be a sensible Difference of the Dip, upon shifting the Sides of the Needle, whatever Pains be taken to prevent it, I am fully satisfied from the following Experiments.

*March 20, 1722.*

## EXPERIMENT I.

**I** Touch'd both Sides of that End of the Needle which I design'd to point South, upon the North-pole of a small *Terrella*; after which I caused it to vibrate in an Arch of ten Degrees, and counted the Time by a Pendulum Clock, shewing Seconds, till the Needle had performed 50 Vibrations.

A a a 2

It

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| It perform'd the first 25 Vibrations in    | 2' 58"  |
| The next 25 Vibrations in                  | 2' 27"  |
| <hr/>                                      |         |
| The 50 in                                  | 5' 25"  |
| Which gives for each Vibration at a Medium | 6, 5    |
| The Needle dipp'd                          | 73° 15' |

## EXPERIMENT II.

Then I shifted the Needle so as that Side, which before respected the East, was now turn'd West, and causing it to vibrate in the same Arch, as before, it perform'd

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| The first 25 Vibrations in | 2' 49"  |
| The next 25 in             | 2' 39"  |
| <hr/>                      |         |
| The 50 Vibrations in       | 5' 28"  |
| That is, each Vibration in | 6, 56   |
| The Dip                    | 73° 50' |

## EXPERIMENT III.

I now touch'd the same End of the Needle, a second Time, on both Sides, upon the same Stone, and suffering it to vibrate, as before,

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| It perform'd 25 Vibrations in | 2' 49"  |
| That is, one Vibration in     | 6, 76   |
| The Dip                       | 73° 20' |

## EXPERIMENT IV.

The Needle was now shifted, and stood as in the second Experiment.

|                               |     |       |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------|
| It perform'd 25 Vibrations in | 2'  | 41"   |
| That is, one Vibration in     |     | 6, 44 |
| Dip                           | 73° | 45'   |

## EXPERIMENT V.

The same End of the Needle being now touch'd twice on each Side, with the Loadstone presented by Right Honourable the Lord *Paisley* to the Royal Society, in the Armour,

|   |     |       |
|---|-----|-------|
| It perform'd the first 25 Vibrations in | 1'  | 58"   |
| The next 25 in                          | 1   | 46    |
| <hr/>                                   |     |       |
| The 50 Vibrations in                    | 3   | 44    |
| That is, each Vibration in              |     | 4, 48 |
| The Dip                                 | 73° | 55'   |

## EXPERIMENT VI.

The Needle being turn'd, and standing as in the second and fourth Experiments, it perform'd

|                            |     |       |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|
| The first 25 Vibrations in | 2'  | 00"   |
| The next 25 in             | 1   | 57    |
| <hr/>                      |     |       |
| The 50 Vibrations in       | 3   | 57    |
| That is, each Vibration in |     | 4, 74 |
| The Dip                    | 74° | 10'   |

EXPE-

## EXPERIMENT VII.

I now touch'd the Needle at both Ends with the same Stone, with which it was touch'd in the fifth Experiment, after which it perform'd

|  |    |       |
|--|----|-------|
| The first 25 Vibrations in                                     | 1  | 35    |
| The next 25 in   | 1  | 34    |
| <hr/>  |    |       |
| The 50 in  | 3  | 9     |
| That is, each Vibration in                                     |    | 3, 78 |
| The Dip  | 74 | 20    |
| The Dip repeated with the }<br>Needle taken off and replaced } | 74 | 20+   |

## EXPERIMENT VIII.

Upon shifting the Needle, it perform'd

|                            |                 |     |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| The first 25 Vibrations in | 1               | 33  |
| The next 25 in             | 1               | 34  |
| <hr/>                      |                 |     |
| The 50 in                  | 3               | 7   |
| The Dip                    | 74 <sup>a</sup> | 25' |
| The Dip repeated           | 74              | 30— |

NB. *The Needle had the same Side to the East in the first, third, fifth, and seventh Experiments; and had that Side turn'd Westward in the second, fourth, sixth, and eighth; and I began to count the Vibrations, when I observ'd it to vibrate just 10 Degrees, as near as I could guess. All these Experiments were made with sufficient Care in every Particular, excepting the Quantity of the Dip, which requires the Divisions of the Semicircle to be very equal.*

equal, and the 90th Degree to be perpendicularly under the Axis of the Needle; this last I found was a little faulty, the Dip being in Reality greater than the Semicircle shewed it. After I had rectified this Error, and new touch'd the Needle, upon that Part of the Armour to which Iron is applied, when it is to be lifted by the Stone, it perform'd the same Number of Vibrations in less Time than in any of the former Trials. I now determin'd to observe, for some Space of Time, both the Dip and Vibrations, without fresh touching the Needle.

The Observations follow, by which it appears there is a very considerable Difference, both in the Quantity of the Dip, and in the Quickness of the Vibrations.

N.B. In all these Experiments, the Needle was placed, so as to vibrate exactly in the Plane of the Magnetick Meridian; and sufficiently distant from all Iron that could affect it, as far as I could perceive, till I had Occasion to put up a very large Iron Rod in the Room above it, which immediately alter'd the Dip of the Needle, and thereby put an End to these Trials.

| 1723.           | Dip   | Time of the Day. |
|-----------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Mar.</i> 29. | $75=00$ at $10=00.$<br>$74=53$ $4=15$                                     |                  |
| 30.             | $74=55+$ $1=00$<br>$74=50-$ $4=00$  |                  |
| 31.             | $74=50-$ $10=00$<br>$74=50-$ $12=30$<br>$74=50-$ $2=15$                   |                  |
| <i>April</i> 1. | $74=25$ $6=45$<br>$74=25-$ $7=15$<br>$74=20+$ $9=00$                      |                  |
| 2.              | $74=20+$ $7=30.$ A.M.<br>$74=20+$ $7=30.$ P.M.                            |                  |
| 3.              | $74=20+$ $9=30$<br>$74=20+$ $12=30$<br>$74=50$ $4=15$                     |                  |
| 4.              | $74=55+$ $10=00$<br>$74=50+$ $11=15$<br>$74=40$ $12=45$<br>$74=35$ $7=30$ |                  |
| 5.              | $74=40$ $9=15$<br>$74=40$ $1=45$<br>$74=40+$ $5=30$<br>$74=30+$ $8=15$    |                  |
| 6.              | $74=35$ $10=00$<br>$74=35$ $12=00$  |                  |
| 7.              | $74=35+$ $10=20$<br>$74=35+$ $12=30$<br>$74=35$ $4=00$<br>$74=35$ $6=30$  |                  |
| 8.              | $74=40-$ $12=15$<br>$74=40-$ $3=30$                                       |                  |
| 9.              | $74=40-$ $10=00$<br>$74=40-$ $4=15$                                       |                  |
| 10.             | $74=40-$ $10=00$<br>$74=30+$ $8=00$                                       |                  |

|                 | Dip  | Time of the Day. |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| <i>Apr.</i> 11. | $74=35+$ $10=00.$ A.M.   |                  |
| 13.             | $74=40-$   |                  |
| 14.             | $74=40-$ $10=45$<br>$74=40-$ $11=15$<br>$74=35$ $5=10$<br>$74=35$ $8=17$ |                  |
| 15.             | $74=35$ $9=10.$ A.M.   |                  |
| 16.             | $74=35$ $11=00$<br>$74=30+$ $8=45$                                       |                  |
| 17.             | $74=45$ $12=25$  |                  |
| 18.             | $74=40+$ $9=15$<br>$74=45$ $5=00$  |                  |
| 19.             | $74=45$ $9=00.$ A.M.   |                  |
| 20.             | $74=45$  |                  |
| 21.             | $74=50$ $10=30$  |                  |
| 23.             | $74=50$ $12=00$  |                  |
| 26.             | $74=50+$ $2=30$  |                  |
| 27.             | $74=55$  |                  |
| 28.             | $75=00$ $1=00.$ P.M.<br>$75=00$ $3=15$<br>$74=58$ $5=15$                 |                  |
| 30.             | $74=40$ $3=15$   |                  |
| <i>May</i> 1.   | $74=45$ $1=30$   |                  |
| 2.              | $74=45$ $12=00$<br>$74=45+$ $1=00$<br>$74=40+$ $3=50$                    |                  |

The Weight of the dipping Needle 9pt. 21gr. *Troy.*

N.B. The Mark + signifies something more than is here set down, and - signifies something less, but the Difference could scarce amount to more than two Minutes.

Experi-



Experiments of the Vibrations of the Dipping Needle, beginning with an Arch of 10 Degrees, with the Times in which 100 Vibrations were perform'd,

1723 <sup>h</sup> /  
*April 1.* about 7=15 Afternoon.

First 50 in 3=2  
Last 50 in 2=45

The 100 in 5=47. Dip 74°=25'

*April 2.* in the Evening

First 50 in 3=3  
Last 50 in 2=43

The 100 in 5=46. Dip 74=20'

*April 3.* about 4 in the Afternoon.

First 50 in 2=52  
Last 50 in 2=39

The 100 in 5=31. Dip 74=50

Repeated about an Hour after.

First 50 in 2=53  
Last 50 in 2=35

The 100 in 5=28. Dip 74=50+

*April 4.* about 11=15 in the Morn.

First 50 in 2=54  
Last 50 in 2=30

The 100 in 5=24. Dip 74=50+

*April 28.* about 5=15 Afternoon.

First 50 in 2=48  
Last 50 in 2=16

The 100 in 5=4. Dip 74=58

Repeated

First 50 in 2=47  
Last 50 in 2=16

The 100 in 5=3. Dip 74=58

*May 20.* / "

First 50 in 3=11  
Last 50 in 3=1

The 100 in 6=12

Repeated the Needle being new touch'd.

First 50 in 2=38  
Last 50 in 2=23

The 100 in 5=1. Dip 74=35

Repeated again about an Hour after

First 50 in 2=38  
Last 50 in 2=20

The 100 in 4=58. Dip 74=30+

*May 21.* about Noon

First 50 in 2=41  
Last 50 in 2=28

The 100 in 5=9. Dip 74=30

*May 23.* about 12=45

First 50 in 2=40  
Last 50 in 2=27

The 100 in 5=7. Dip 74=40

*May 25.* about 3=30

First 50 in 2=41  
Last 50 in 2=30

The 100 in 5=11. Dip 74=40+

*May 27.* about 6=30 Afternoon.

First 50 in 2=41  
Last 50 in 2=28

The 100 in 5=9. Dip 74=50